

# DC Places of Interest

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*This list of federal attractions has been compiled to assist you in planning your visit to Washington DC. All of the following sites have collections or resources pertaining to Native American, museum, or repatriation interests. If you choose to attend only some of the panel sessions at the **NAGPRA at 20** Symposium, or if you are planning on allocating a few extra days for sight-seeing during your trip, consider these educational and pertinent options. Admission to all of these attractions is free. Continue checking the National NAGPRA Program website for updates to this list.*

## National Archives

### Description:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) maintains all records pertinent to the country's past. In the rotunda of the National Archives Building in Washington DC is the permanent exhibit of the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of Independence. Interested members of the public can use the documents at NARA to research virtually any topic within American history.

### Location:

Constitution Ave NW between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Washington, DC

### Hours of Operation:

Daily, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### Points of Interest:

**American Indian Treaties Exhibit:** Located in the Public Vaults Permanent exhibit space; the exhibit tells the story of the Lakota's struggles with the American government to gain the rights promised to them in various federal treaties.

Website: <http://www.archives.gov/nae/news/>

### Visiting:

No reservations are required for visiting the National Archives Experience building, but individuals who choose may reserve their visit for a 9:45 a.m. guided tour or a 90 minute self-guided tour. Individuals and groups may reserve up to 15 spaces for guided tours and 20 spaces for self-guided tours. Groups may reserve up to 100 spaces for self-guided tours. Visitors with advance reservations enter through the Special Events door at Constitution Ave and 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Reservations are not required for visiting the National Archives but are recommended. Reservations can be made through the Call Center: 1-877-444-6777, Group Sales Reservations: 1-877-559-6777, or TDD: 1-877-833-6777. You may also visit <http://www.archives.gov/nae/visit/reserved-visits.html> to make a reservation.

### Contact Information:

**Telephone:** (202) 357-5000

**Website:** <http://www.archives.gov/nae/>

# Library of Congress

## Description:

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, housing millions of documents such as photographs, maps, and manuscripts as well as sound recordings. The Library primarily serves congressional research needs, but is open to members of the public interested in doing research or simply seeing the collection.

## Location:

101 Independence Ave SE, Washington, DC 20540

## Hours of Operation:

### **Thomas Jefferson Building - The Library of Congress Experience**

Monday – Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### **James Madison Memorial Madison Building**

Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### **John Adams Building**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Friday, Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Points of Interest:

**Exploring the Early America's Exhibit:** Located in the Northwest Gallery, Thomas Jefferson Building; features 3,000 documents, maps, and other artifacts from the Jay I. Kislak collection related to indigenous cultures and contact with European settlers.

Website: <http://myloc.gov/exhibitions/earlyamericas/Pages/default.aspx>

**American Folk Life Center:** The folk life division of the Library of Congress has an expansive collection of historic archival Native American songs, many recorded on wax cylinders or LP format records.

Website: <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/>

Phone Contact: (202) 707-5510

**Carlos Nakai, Folk Life Concert:** 12:00 noon, Wednesday, November 17; Coolidge Auditorium on the Ground Floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress; free admission; Carlos Nakai is of Navajo-Ute heritage from Arizona and is the world's best known performer of Native American flute music.

Website: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/perform/concert/0910-folklife.html#november17>

## Tours:

**Public Tours:** Monday – Saturday, 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

**Professional Visitor Programs:** The Library of Congress offers tours to professionals with interests in a particular topic.

Such a tour would perhaps be of interest to representatives from museums or tribes who would like to see the Library of Congress's collection pertaining to their organization. **Requests for these tours must be made at least a month in advance.** To request a tour, contact the Visitor Service Office at (202) 707-9779 or by visiting

<http://www.loc.gov/visit/tours/>.

## Contact Information:

Telephone: (202) 707-5000

Website: <http://www.loc.gov/index.html>

## **National Museum of the American Indian**

### **Description:**

The National Museum of the American Indian is a Smithsonian Institution located on the National Mall. It houses both contemporary and historic collections relating to indigenous cultures in North and South America.

### **Location:**

Fourth Street and Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20560

### **Hours of Operation:**

Daily, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### **Points of Interest:**

**Up Where We Belong: Native Musicians in Popular Culture Exhibit:** July 1, 2010 – January 2, 2011

**Website:** <http://www.nmai.si.edu/subpage.cfm?subpage=exhibitions&second=dc&third=current>

### **Visiting:**

#### **Group Visits:**

Groups of ten or more people are highly encouraged to schedule visits in advance by contacting the NMAI Group Reservation Office. You may contact the Group Reservation Office by calling (202) 633-6644 or by emailing [NMAI-groupreservations@si.edu](mailto:NMAI-groupreservations@si.edu).

#### **Highlights Tours (45 min.–1 hr.):**

Daily: 1:30 PM; Saturday: 3 PM

### **Contact Information:**

**Telephone:** (202) 633-1000

**Website:** <http://www.nmai.si.edu/subpage.cfm?subpage=visitor>

## **National Museum of Natural History**

### **Description:**

The National Museum of Natural History is a Smithsonian Institution located on the National Mall. It houses scientific collections related to the Natural World such as dinosaur fossils, plants, animals, insects, as well as cultural artifacts.

### **Location:**

10<sup>th</sup> Street and Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20560

### **Hours of Operation:**

Daily, 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### **Visiting:**

**General Visits:** Admission to the NMNH is free and no ticket is required.

### **Contact Information:**

**Telephone:** (202) 633-1000

**Website:** <http://www.mnh.si.edu/>

## **National Museum of Natural History Repatriation Office**

### **Description:**

The Repatriation Office of the National Museum of Natural History was established to implement the statutory requirements of the NMAI Act. The staff works collaboratively with tribal members to facilitate the repatriation of items within the NMNH collection. Those that are interested may schedule a time to consult with staff about repatriation issues or tour the NMNH collections at the Museum Support Center in Suitland, Maryland.

### **Location:**

National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

### **Visiting:**

To schedule a time to tour the NMNH collections at the Museum Support Center or to meet with staff to discuss issues pertaining to repatriation, contact William Billeck at the addresses listed below.

### **Contact Information:**

**Primary Contact:** William Billeck, Program Manager and Case Officer for the Plains

**Telephone:** (202) 633-0865

**Email:** [billeckb@si.edu](mailto:billeckb@si.edu)

**Website:** <http://anthropology.si.edu/repatriation/index.htm>

## **Bureau of Indian Affairs**

### **Description:**

Two representatives from the BIA will be available to meet with interested individuals to discuss issues pertaining to historic preservation and museums during the week of the NAGPRA at 20 Symposium. Annie Pardo is a Museum Program Manager and Marvin Keller is a Federal Preservation Officer and NEPA Coordinator for the BIA.

### **Location:**

Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2051 Mercator Drive, Reston, VA 20191

### **Visiting:**

When Mr. Keller and Ms. Pardo are available to meet will depend on the number of interested individuals. To indicate your interest and coordinate a time for meeting, contact them at the email addresses or phone numbers listed below.

### **Contact Information:**

**Telephone:** Marvin Keller: (703) 390-6470, Annie Pardo: (703) 390-6343

**Email:** Marvin Keller: [marv.keller@bia.gov](mailto:marv.keller@bia.gov), Annie Pardo: [anna.pardo@bia.gov](mailto:anna.pardo@bia.gov)

## **U.S. Capitol Dome Tours**

### **Description:**

The dome of the U.S. Capitol building contains several paintings depicting significant events involving Native American tribes and the US government. The most recent addition is a statue of Popé, leader of the 1680 Pueblo Revolt.

### **Location:**

The US Capitol building is bordered by Constitution Avenue to the North, Independence Avenue to the South, and First Streets to the East and West. It is located at the East end of the National Mall.

### **Hours of Operation:**

The Capitol Visitor Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Tours are conducted from 8:20 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.

### **Visiting:**

Tours of the Capitol are usually arranged by contacting your individual congressmen. You may go to <http://www.visitthecapitol.gov/Visit/Page%20-%20Tour%20Information.html> to find the contact information of your congressman, or to book a tour directly through the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center.

### **Contact Information:**

**Website:** <http://www.visitthecapitol.gov/>

## **United States Marine Corp (Iwo Jima) War Memorial**

### **Description:**

The United States Marine Corp Memorial depicts the rising of the American Flag on Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. The memorial is dedicated to all Marines who have lost their lives in battle. One of the soldiers immortalized in the statue is Ira Hayes, a member of the Pima Indian Tribe from Arizona.

### **Location:**

North Meade Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209

### **Visiting:**

Visiting the memorial is free and no reservation is required.

### **Contact Information:**

**Telephone:** (703) 289-2500

**Website:** <http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/marinecorpswarmemorial.htm>

# **Arlington National Cemetery**

## **Description:**

In Section 8 of the Arlington National Cemetery near the grave of Ira Hayes, Pima Marine memorialized in the United States Marine Corp War Memorial, is a bronze plaque dedicated to American Indian Veterans. The plaque's inscription reads: "Dedicated to our Indian warriors and their brothers who have served us so well...the Vietnam Era Veterans...we are honored to remember you."

## **Location:**

Arlington, VA 22211

## **Visiting:**

Visiting the cemetery is free and no reservation is required. It is recommended that visitors stop at the Arlington National Cemetery Visitor Center, near the cemetery entrance, for maps and other information before exploring the cemetery. For more information on visiting, go to [http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/contact\\_us.html](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/contact_us.html).

## **Contact Information:**

**Telephone:** 1-877-907-8585

**Website:** <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/>